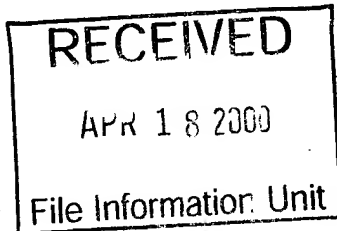


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REQUEST FOR ACCESS OF ABANDONED APPLICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.14(a)

In re Application of

Application Number

08-668327

Filed

6-26-96

Group Art Unit

Examiner

Paper No. 444Assistant Commissioner for Patents
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US005963916A

United States Patent [19]

Kaplan

[11] Patent Number: 5,963,916

[45] Date of Patent: *Oct. 5, 1999

[54] NETWORK APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR
PREVIEW OF MUSIC PRODUCTS AND
COMPILATION OF MARKET DATA

4,027,405 6/1977 Schloss 35/35 C

(List continued on next page.)

[75] Inventor: Joshua D. Kaplan, Berkeley, Calif.

[73] Assignee: Intouch Group, Inc., San Francisco, Calif.

[*] Notice: This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

[21] Appl. No.: 08/741,915

[22] Filed: Oct. 31, 1996

Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation-in-part of application No. 08/668,327, Jun. 26, 1996, abandoned, which is a continuation of application No. 08/282,153, Jul. 28, 1994, abandoned, which is a continuation of application No. 08/035,661, Mar. 23, 1993, abandoned, which is a continuation of application No. 07/954,444, Oct. 6, 1992, Pat. No. 5,237,157, which is a continuation of application No. 07/582,253, Sep. 13, 1990, abandoned.

[51] Int. Cl.⁶ G06F 17/60

[52] U.S. Cl. 705/26

[58] Field of Search 235/462; 705/10, 705/26, 27

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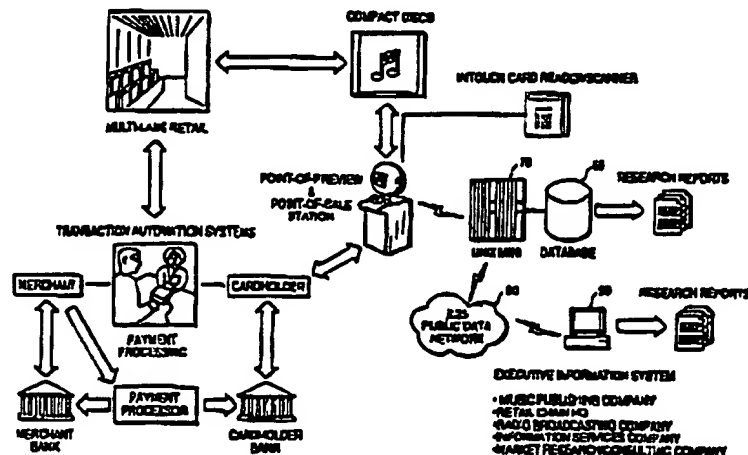
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Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Dergosits & Noah LLP

[57] ABSTRACT

A system for on-line user-interactive multimedia based point-of-preview. The system provides for a network web site and accompanying software and hardware for allowing users to access the web site over a network such as the internet via a computer. The user is uniquely identified to the web site server through an identification name or number. The hardware associated with the web site includes storage of discrete increments of pre-selected portions of music products for user selection and preview. After user selection, a programmable data processor selects the particular pre-recorded music product from data storage and then transmits that chosen music product over the network to the user for preview. Subscriber selection and profile data (i.e. demographic information) can optionally be collected and stored to develop market research data. Since the system provides for multiple embodiments, the system contemplates previewing of audio programs such as music on compact discs, video programs such as movies and text from books and other written documents. Furthermore, it is contemplated that the network web site can be accessed from a publicly accessible kiosk, available, e.g. at a retail store location, or from a desk top computer.

18 Claims, 82 Drawing Sheets



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Ordered
USPN- 5237,157
Waiting